

**FRESNO, CA** - Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced today (Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2005) that Fresno, Kern and Kings County will receive a grant totaling just under \$2 million dollars from the United States Department of Justice office of the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

"These funds," Costa said, "help to compensate states and localities for the costs incurred for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens."

"The Bureau of Justice Assistance," Congressman Costa explained, "administers the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, in conjunction with the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Department of Homeland Security."

California's 20<sup>th</sup> District will receive a total of \$1,773,926 from this program and Fresno County will receive \$1,045,772; Kern County will receive \$613,980 and Kings County will receive \$114,174.